

SOUTH AFRICAN RADIO LEAGUE

SARL NEWS SUNDAY 20 August 2006

You are listening to Amateur Radio Station ZS6SRL of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin that is broadcast every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. This broadcast can also be heard on Echolink by connecting to ZS6FCS or to www.zs6mrk.org and following the indicated links. This, and previous bulletins, can also be downloaded from the web site of the SARL i.e. www.sarl.org.za. You can read or download previous bulletins from there and also subscribe to receive future bulletins by email.

This transmission is by Hans, ZS6KR, on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria with a relay on 3 695 kHz. (Other news readers, please change to suit).

SILENT KEY

It is with deep regret that we announce the passing of Bud Voortman, ZS1B, on Thursday 17 August at the age of 73 due to a massive stroke. Bud was a medical doctor and licenced since 1957. Since moving to Cape Town some 13 years ago he served several times as chairman of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Club and was very active in teaching, mentoring and coaching, including Morse code. He received a number of awards from the SARL and was an Honorary Life Member of both SARL and the CTARC.

To Vaughn, his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, their children and his many friends, we offer our sincerest condolences. He will be deeply mourned and profoundly missed by all his friends in the ham fraternity but, in particular, his friends and fellow committee members at the CTARC.

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

SARL ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF THE ZU ENTRY LEVEL LICENSE

PRESIDENT NET AND INTECNET ON THE AIR ON 27 AUGUST

GOOD NEWS FOR RAE STUDENTS WHO FAILED THE LAST EXAM

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

SARL ANNOUNCES DETAILS OF THE ZU ENTRY LEVEL LICENSE

At the Radio Technology in Action open day held at the National Amateur Radio Centre yesterday, SARL President Graham Hartlett announced details of the entry level to Amateur Radio License, often referred to as the ZU licence.

The syllabus will be available on the web from later today to allow students and lecturers to start preparing for the examination. The first ZU examination

will be at the same time as the RAE on 19 October 2006. The examination fee, including the ICASA licence application and licence fee will be R217.

The syllabus consists of three sections and the examination is based on 30 multiple choice questions. Twenty questions will cover operating procedure and regulations and the remaining 10 questions will cover the technical section.

From 2007 the SARL is planning to offer the entry level license examination more frequently. Details will be announced as they become available.

PRESIDENT'S NET AND INTECNET ON THE AIR ON 27 AUGUST

The President's Net and INTECNET will be on the air on Sunday 27 August. The President will discuss more details about the new ZU syllabus and examination and other issues affecting amateur radio. The guest on the INTECNET is Eric Winter, Chairman of the SA National Committee of CISPR. Eric has been tasked to draft a proposal for consideration by the ICASA Council, intended to establish the interference risk posed by PLC. It is intended that this procedure will be observed by, among others, SARL, SANAS and ICASA.

The President's net starts at 19:00 and the Intecnet at 20:00. Clubs are urged to link their local repeater to the network. Send a request for a port on the teleconference bridge to armi@sarl.org.za.

OVER 60, RETIRED AND FEELING THE PINCH?

The council of the SARL has announced that members over 60, and retired, may apply for senior membership status at a reduced fee. Automatic change from member to senior member will however remain at 65. Members wishing to change their membership status and pay the lower fee should send a request to admin@sarl.org.za. The senior member fee for the current year is R230.

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR MEMEMBERSHIP FEE?

The Membership fee for the SARL was due on 1 July 2006 and is now reaching the overdue account status. If you have not yet paid your dues, please do so without delay. The fee is R305 for members and R230 for senior members. Please support Amateur Radio by renewing now to help us reduce the cost of sending out reminders.

GOOD NEWS FOR RAE STUDENTS WHO FAILED THE LAST EXAM

The Council of the SARL considered a request to ease the burden of students who failed the May examination and would like to rewrite. As a once off for this year only, the Council has decided to waive the examination fee and allow students who did not pass the May examination to rewrite on 19 October free of charge. Students must follow the normal examination registration process.

SLOGAN FOR AMATEUR RADIO

Almost a hundred entries were received in the slogan competition. Council had a difficult task to select the one that will be used for the next year. The

slogan that was closest to the specification came from Gawie Basson, ZS6GJJ. Amongst the many that ZS6GJJ submitted was "Amateur radio - Comrades in communication and electronic knowledge". After some editing and tightening up on the number of words the final slogan that emerged is "Amateur Radio - Communication technology in action".

ZS6GJJ will receive the ARRL Antenna Handbook donated by the SA Amateur Radio Development Trust. Congratulations Gawie!

Rear window car stickers will be made available. Watch SARLNEWS for details. The sticker will display: Amateur Radio - Communication Technology in Action with www.sarl.org.za as the by-line. If you would like to add the slogan to your personal or club web, look for examples on how to display it on www.sarl.org.za.

RESULTS OF THE BARC 40 m PHONE COMPETITION

The Boland Amateur Radio Club 40 m phone competition which was held on Sunday 22 July produced the following results:

First place, with a total of 85 points goes to André Botes, ZS2ACP. In the second place, with 72 points, is Michelle van der Merwe, ZS6TO, and in the third place with 68 points is Jan Botha, ZS4JAN.

Congratulations go to these stations. Their certificates will be forwarded shortly.

In Division 1 it was Allan Wood, ZR1AAH and in Division 5 we have Dave Jones, ZS5DJ. No log sheets were received from Division 3. Only one log sheet was received from a neighbouring country, it is from Andy Cory, 3DAOTM, in Swaziland who will also be receiving his certificate shortly.

Quite a number of stations were on the air but only 13 logs were received. BARC thanks all the stations who took part and is looking forward to next year's competition.

NEW COMMITTEES FOR THREE CLUBS

CAPE TOWN ARC

At the AGM of the Cape Town Amateur Radio Centre held on Saturday the 29th July, the following committee was elected:

Chairman and PRO: Dave Reece, ZS1DFR; Secretary/Treasurer: Peter Henochsberg ZS1PMH; Field Events and Admin: Bud Voortman, ZS1B; Clubhouse and Ragchew: Shaun Overmeyer ZS1RA; Rosters and Duties: Tony McEwen, ZR1T; Minutes Secretary and RAE: Evan Pedlar, ZS1EVP; Field Events and Raffles: Paul Kennedy, ZR1P XK; Keeper of the Tower and Beam: James Gardner, ZS1ROY.

HIGHWAY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

At the 2006 AGM of the Highway Amateur Radio Club last week, the following members were elected for the next year's committee:

Chairman: Janet Musto ZS5JAN; Vice Chairman: Edwin Musto ZS5BBO; Secretary: Tony Mayall ZS5GR; Treasurer: Anne Bean ZS5FAB.

Members: Dave Holiday ZR5CW; Brian Roodt ZS5BBR; Keith Lowes ZS5WFD; Sean Pritchard ZR5SEP; Garth Wheeler ZS5GMW.

PRETORIA AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

At the AGM held on the 2nd of August 2006 the Pretoria Amateur Radio Club elected Almero du Pisani, ZS6LDP, as their chairman, and the four members mentioned which follows his name hereunder, to their new committee. On their first committee meeting the full committee was made up as follows, which includes co-opted members: Almero du Pisani is also responsible for SARL Liason and Flea Markets; Johan de Bruyn, ZS6JHB: Secretary, Vice Chairman, Rallies and Social; Richard Peer, ZS6UK: Treasurer, DF hunts; Pine Pienaar, ZS6OB: Repeater, Technical; Craig Symington, ZS6RH: Public Relations; Almero du Pisani, ZS6LDP: Co-opted Members: Andre van Tonder, ZS6BRC: Asset Control; Molly Peer, ZR6MOL, and Willie Greyling, ZR6WGR: Clubhouse; Edwin Peer, ZR6ESP: Webmaster; Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR: Watts Newsletter; Johann de Beer, ZR6YV: Rallies; Doreen de Bruyn, ZR6DDB: Social; Tjerk Lammers, ZS6P: Awards and Historian; Roy Newton, ZS6XN, and Hans Kappetijn, ZS6KR: Projects; Thobile Kon, ZS6TKO, and Jaco Lubbe, ZR6JLL: Public Relations;

Thank you to the outgoing committees for faithful duties performed, and good luck to the new committees in the coming year.

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that solar activity is expected to be at very low to low levels. The geomagnetic field is expected to range from quiet to minor storm levels on 28 August. The expected Effective Sun Spot number for the coming week will be less than 15.

20 m and 40 m will provide best opportunities for DX. There is a possibility of very weak 20 m openings towards the East from about 08:00 CAT and 40 m from 18:00. >From about 16:00, 20 m may open towards Europe. There is a possibility of very short 20 m openings towards the West Coast of the USA at about 08:00 and again at 16:00. Otherwise conditions are going to be very challenging towards the USA.

For the CW enthusiasts it may also be worth monitoring 10 MHz during hours of darkness.

Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information, especially for the SARL HF phone contest.

DIARY OF EVENTS

Today 20 August - Lighthouses on the air; 2 September - West Rand Club Flea Market; 14 September - Closing date for entries for the October RAE; 7 October

- East Rand Flea market 19 October - End of year RAE.

SARL News depends on clubs and individuals for news items of importance and interest to radio amateurs. The one and only way to ensure that your contribution will reach the SARL News team, is to place it in www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date. It will be appreciated if you will do it in both Afrikaans and English.

The SARL also invites all listeners to listen to the program Amateur Radio Mirror International this Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 695 kHz. Audio is also streamed on www.zs6mrk.org and on Echolink from ZS6FCS as for this bulletin. A repeat transmission takes place on Mondays at 21:00 on 3 215 kHz. Telkom and Sentech sponsor the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have been listening to a news bulletin by the South African Radio League which was compiled by Gustav ZS6BWN.

A prosperous week to all, 73.

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